

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Such an clear example of partisan attacks is incredible to me. Sinclair should not be allowed to air the 'documentary' free of charge as a 'news event' because it is nothing but a blatant Republican attack on Sen. Kerry. They should not be allowed to air such an attack without being force to allow equal time access to the Democratic party to respond. Their action is clearly not in the best interest of a fair and balanced use of the public's airwaves.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.